

**TWO-MODE FOUNDATION FIELDBUS
DEVICE CONFIGURATOR**

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

5 A dual mode configurator operates in an off-line mode to configure Fieldbus
devices and/or segments in a typical manner and operates in an on-line mode to
reconfigure or set certain parameters of a device when the device is connected to a
segment controlled by a different host, without interfering with the on-line operation
of the segment. The dual mode configurator can be used to configure an entire
segment by configuring both network settings and device settings and, alternatively,
10 can be used to configure device settings without effecting or interfering with the on-
line system configuration information such as the network settings of a segment when,
for example, a different host device or configuration device is connected to the
segment to implement process control activities or to make segment changes.